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By: **Chairman, Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee**  
**(By Request - Departmental - Health and Mental Hygiene)**

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2003

Rules suspended

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Acupuncture Board - Examination Requirements and Membership of**  
3 **Board**

4 FOR the purpose of increasing the term for a member of the State Acupuncture  
5 Board; requiring individuals who apply for licensure with the Board to pass a  
6 certain examination; requiring the Board to grant a waiver of certain  
7 requirements under this Act to certain individuals under certain circumstances;  
8 making certain technical changes; and generally relating to the State  
9 Acupuncture Board.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
11 Article - Health Occupations  
12 Section 1A-202(g) and 1A-302  
13 Annotated Code of Maryland  
14 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

15 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
16 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

17 **Article - Health Occupations**

18 1A-202.

19 (g) (1) The term of a member is [3] 4 years.

20 (2) The terms of members are staggered as required by the terms  
21 provided for members of the Board on July 1, 1994.

22 (3) At the end of a term, a member continues to serve until a successor is  
23 appointed and qualifies.

24 (4) A member may not serve more than two consecutive full terms.

1 (5) A member who is appointed after a term has begun serves only for  
2 the rest of the term and until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

3 1A-302.

4 (a) To qualify for a license, an applicant shall be an individual who meets the  
5 requirements of this section.

6 (b) The applicant shall:

7 (1) Be of good moral character;

8 (2) Be at least 18 years old;

9 (3) Demonstrate competence in performing acupuncture by meeting [one  
10 of] the following standards for education [or training] AND EXAMINATION:

11 (i) Graduation from a course of training of at least 1,800 hours IN  
12 ACUPUNCTURE, including 300 clinical hours, that is:

13 1. Approved by the Maryland Higher Education Commission;

14 2. Accredited by the [National Accreditation Commission for  
15 Schools and Colleges of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine] ACCREDITATION  
16 COMMISSION FOR ACUPUNCTURE AND ORIENTAL MEDICINE; or

17 3. Found by the Board to be equivalent to a course approved  
18 by the [National Accreditation Commission for Schools and Colleges of Acupuncture  
19 and Oriental Medicine] ACCREDITATION COMMISSION FOR ACUPUNCTURE AND  
20 ORIENTAL MEDICINE; [or] AND

21 (ii) Achievement of a passing score on [an examination that is]:

22 1. [Given by the National Commission for the Certification  
23 of Acupuncturists] EACH PORTION OF THE EXAMINATION FOR CERTIFICATION IN  
24 ACUPUNCTURE PROVIDED BY THE NATIONAL CERTIFICATION COMMISSION FOR  
25 ACUPUNCTURE AND ORIENTAL MEDICINE; or

26 2. [Determined] AN EXAMINATION THAT IS DETERMINED by  
27 the Board to be equivalent to the examination given by the [National Commission for  
28 the Certification of Acupuncturists] NATIONAL CERTIFICATION COMMISSION FOR  
29 ACUPUNCTURE AND ORIENTAL MEDICINE;

30 (4) Demonstrate the ability to communicate in the English language;  
31 and

32 (5) Meet any other qualifications that the Board establishes in  
33 regulations.

34 (C) THE BOARD SHALL WAIVE THE EXAMINATION REQUIREMENT UNDER  
35 SUBSECTION (B)(3)(II) OF THIS SECTION FOR AN INDIVIDUAL WHO:

1 (1) OBTAINED A LICENSE TO PRACTICE ACUPUNCTURE ON OR BEFORE  
2 OCTOBER 1, 2003; OR

3 (2) WAS ENROLLED IN A COURSE OF TRAINING THAT SATISFIED THE  
4 EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (B)(3)(I) OF THIS SECTION AS OF  
5 OCTOBER 1, 2003.

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
7 October 1, 2003.